

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 15532 230853Z

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SYE-00 SSO-00 /018 W

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O 230818Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0121

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS ROME 15532

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: PROPOSED PUBLIC ACCESS CONTROL, ROME USIS LIBRARY

FOR A/SY/FO

1. THIS IS TO PUT INTO MORE ACCURATE PERSPECTIVE ESTIMATES FOR PROPOSED NEW ACCESS CONTROLS AT USIS LIBRARY, SINCE FIGURE QUOTED IN USIS ROME 15182 WAS OBTAINED QUICKLY AND FROM NON-PROFESSIONAL SECURITY SOURCES AND REFLECTED OTHER THAN PURE SECURITY COSTS. (FYI, THROUGH USIS OVERSIGHT, THAT FIGURE WAS NOT SEEN BY RSO OR GSO BEFORE SENDING, SINCE TELEGRAM DRAFT DID NOT CONTAIN ANY FIGURE.) CURRENT QUICK ESTIMATES NOW SECURED BY RSO AND GSO INDICATE THAT COSTS FOR THESE ACCESS CONTROLS WOULD BE BETWEEN 8,000 AND 10,000 DOLLARS. ADDITIONAL COST OF GRILLING LIBRARY WINDOWS FACING VIA VENETO ESTIMATED AT \$2,000. ALLOWING FOR OVERAGE, TOTAL SECURITY-RELATED COSTS SHOULD NOT EXCEED \$15,000; IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THESE HAVE BEEN THE ONLY SECURITY-RELATED EXPENDITURES RECOMMENDED BY RSO. PREVIOUS HIGH FIGURE WAS ESCALATED BECAUSE IT WAS ERRONEOUSLY ASSUMED THAT WINDOWS WOULD HAVE TO BE SEALED WITH BULLET-PROOF GLASS, THEREBY NECESSITATING NEW AIR-CONDITIONING.

2. PUBLIC ACCESS CONTROLS PLANNED WILL INCLUDE TWO SETS OF DOUBLE DOORS AT ENTRANCE EQUIPPED WITH BULLET-RESISTANT GLASS. FORMER TALL DOUBLE DOORS WITH LARGE GLASS AREA INSIDE FOYER LEADING INTO LIBRARY WILL BE REPLACED WITH ONE SINGLE DOOR EQUIPPED WITH BULLET RESISTANT GLASS. FACING THE STREET
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ENTRANCE AND AT THE REAR OF THE FOYER WE WILL INSTALL A

RECEPTION DESK BARRIER OF BULLET RESISTANT GLASS WITH TALKING HOLE FOR THE RECEPTIONIST.

3. THE OUTSIDE ENTRANCE WILL HAVE A MOTORIZED STEEL ROLL DOWN SHUTTER. AT NIGHT IT WILL ACT AS A NORMAL SECURING BARRIER. DURING WORKING HOURS IT CAN BE ACTIVATED BY RECEPTIONIST TO LOWER FROM CONTROLS BEHIND GLASS SHIELD.

4. RECEPTIONIST WILL HAVE ADDITIONAL CONTROLS WHICH WILL AUTOMATICALLY LOCK TWO FRONT DOORS AND DOOR TO LIBRARY IN CASE OF ATTACK. NO PACKAGES WILL BE ALLOWED IN LIBRARY.

5. GLASS BOOTH ALSO SHIELDS DOOR LEADING FROM FOYER AREA BACK THROUGH INNER USIS OFFICES INTO ADJACENT ANNEX BUILDING NOW OPEN TO ACCESS FROM USIS.

6. DECORATIVE GRILLS WILL BE INSTALLED IN ALL WINDOWS FACING VIA VENETO INCLUDING USIS LIBRARY AND ANNEX. TWO GRILLED WINDOWS IN USIS AREA WILL BE ARRANGED TO OPEN FROM INSIDE ONLY FOR FIRE ESCAPE.

7. PAO IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH ABOVE MODIFICATIONS. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME15532
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760359-0183
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760928/aaaaaxki.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cahillha
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2004 by oatisao>; APPROVED <07 DEC 2004 by cahillha>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED PUBLIC ACCESS CONTROL, ROME USIS LIBRARY FOR A/SY/FO
TAGS: ASEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006